

A ATHLETICS HAVE FAILED TO VINDICATE MACK, BUT INJURIES HAVE MADE PROGRESS SLOW

CONNIE MACK'S SYSTEM BOUND TO WORK OUT, SAYS MacROY; SAYS SURPRISE IS COMING

Vice President of Cleveland Club Sees Improvement in Athletics—How Speaker Was Purchased From Red Sox

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL

ALTHOUGH the list of August is almost here and Connie's Crippled Collegians have outdistanced the other seven clubs in the American League for the championship of the cellar division, things do not look so sad and morose as one would imagine.



R. W. MAXWELL

Connie had hopes. Mack held out a little hope, however, for he stated that by the 1st of August he would have a team good enough to hold its own with the others and would make the Athletics in 1917, would be something to be proud of.

If injuries had not intervened, Connie would have come through with his first threat. But every man on the club, with the exception of the pitchers, has been on the sidelines and the raw, green material from the bushes has not advanced in the least.

Robert MacRoy, vice president of the Cleveland Club, was commenting on the showing of the Athletics before he left for home Saturday.

Ready for Surprise

"Connie seems to be playing in hard luck at present," he said, "but it is my idea that he is just saving up for a great big laugh to pull on the other managers of the league. Don't think for a minute that the Athletics will stay in the cellar forever, for Mack has had too much experience in building up teams. He knows his business better than any one else, and, take it from me, he'll spring a surprise in a short time. Any team with the ability to build that wonderful machine two years ago will come back and come back strong."

"Much has been said of Connie's college players, but I think he is working along the right lines. There is no reason in the world why you can't pick up exceptional players in the college ranks, and I'll grab some more if I get the opportunity."

MacRoy does not get his name in print very often—outside of the building but he has more cards in the league than any other of the Cleveland team than any other person. In other words, it was he, and he alone, who signed Tris Speaker.

Gloomy Outlook

Mack was not tickled to death when he and his associates grabbed the Cleveland franchise last winter, for he knew that he was up against a very hard proposition. The team went bad the year before, Charlie Somers went broke and the good citizens of the Forest City who enjoyed baseball went out to the parks and watched the semipro perform. In all, it was a gloomy outlook and nothing appeared on the horizon but more disaster, unless something happened.

One day MacRoy read in the paper that Tris Speaker was having a hard time in getting the money he thought he deserved from the Red Sox management and threatened to quit the game. An idea struck the now owner, and before it got cold he was on a train speeding to New York. He ward and all was set when he reached the Big City.

He figured that the club was in bad shape and might be saved through the acquisition of a star player—one who stood out above the others. Speaker was disinterested, the Red Sox owner felt the same way, so why not take a chance? Tris was the only drawing card in the league that might be purchased, and perhaps Lannin might listen to reason. Anyway, it was worth a tryout.

Wants to Buy Speaker

MacRoy hastened to Lannin's office and found the Red Sox owner in a receptive mood.

"I've come to talk some business with you," said MacRoy, "and I know I have something that will interest you. I want to purchase the services of Tris Speaker."

Lannin almost fell out of his chair. He gazed steadily at his visitor a moment and said solemnly:

"That's sweet of you, isn't it? Now, I've got a nice ball park, a country home and several auto-mobils. Would they interest you also?"

"I'm not kidding you about that Speaker deal," replied MacRoy. "Tris is dissatisfied; he probably will not give his best service to the club if he signs, and he might like it with us. Anyway, you have Walker, from St. Louis, and he can play a pretty fair game in center field. All I want to do is to state my proposition and a simple 'yes' or 'no' will satisfy me."

Deal Goes Through

"Now, listen," said Lannin; "this talk about selling Speaker is foolish. There isn't a chance in the world. But as you have made the trip just tell me what's on your mind. If you do any good for me, but I am just curious to know what you are trying to put across. What's the idea?"

"I want to get Speaker," stated MacRoy, "and I am willing to pay real money for him. This is my offer." And he outlined a deal which involved \$37,000.

Lannin again was thunderstruck. He grabbed a telephone and said:

"If you mean what you say we'll fix this up in 15 minutes. Just stick around."

MacRoy stood, got Speaker, his team jumped to the front and stayed there and the \$37,000 was taken in through the gates before July 4. The Cleveland Club is the best drawing card in either league at present. Speaker is perfectly satisfied and MacRoy is ready to take another chance—any time.

Jack Dillon Explains

The following was printed in yesterday's issue of the New York Sun:

MAKE READY FOR POLO MEET HERE FROM SEPT. 15-25

Committees Are Selected for Intercircuit Tourney Scheduled at Bala

ON LOSE AND OUT PLAN

The National Polo Association has appointed the list of subcommittees for each circuit, which may choose one team of four players and two substitutes from the active players of any of the clubs within its circuit.

Meredith Takes Two Firsts in Buffalo Handicap Races

Ted Meredith, former Penn captain and world's champion middle-distance runner, returned to this city this morning from Buffalo, where he won the 440-yard dash and half-mile run in the Irish-American games on Saturday.

Meredith allowed liberal handicaps in both events and was not forced to extend himself. Meredith's time for the quarter was 52 2-5 seconds, while the half was run in 2:02 3-5. The times were slow for Meredith, but really were good considering the conditions. The track was of dirt and was fully four seconds slower than the average, heavy rains leaving it in horrible condition.

Kilbane Accepts Terms; Will Box Chaney for Title

Featherweight Champion Says \$15,000 Purse Is Satisfactory for Labor Day Battle

CLEVELAND, O., July 24.—"Matt Hinkie's offer of \$15,000 for a bout between myself and George Chaney looks good to me," said Champion Johnny Kilbane today, "and if it is possible to drag the Baltimorean into the ring, the match is on. I have heard nothing from Chaney as yet, but if he accepts, everything can be arranged satisfactorily."

Kilbane has been training at his home here and says he can get down to weight with little difficulty. Some critics believe he cannot get down to 125 pounds, but Johnny says he will fool them.

Fan's Aim With Pop Is Good

TOLEDO, O., July 24.—Umpire George Johnson, 24 years old, officiating as plate umpire in the first game with St. Paul here yesterday, was hit by a bottle thrown from the stands and rendered unconscious. The bottle struck him on the back of the head, and Johnson was carried off the field. He was still unconscious when taken to a hospital, but revived under treatment. Several attempts were necessary to close the wound. Three arrests were made.

Osborne and Swayne Doubles Champion

POINT PLEASANT, N. J., July 24.—Percy B. Osborne, Crippled, and Kilman Swayne, Plymouth, won the doubles championship of Point Pleasant yesterday by defeating Ralph Gattomp and Harold Henry, of the West Side Tennis Club, New York, 3-0, 6-0, 4-6, 6-2, 9-3.

Runs Scored Last Week by Big League Clubs

Runs scored by all teams in American and National Leagues from Monday, July 17, to Sunday, July 23, inclusive. Only runs that figure in official averages are included. Scores of incomplete games are not counted, but the scores of games of five innings or more are included in the table:

Table with columns for American League and National League, listing runs scored by various teams like Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, etc.

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY

Table listing baseball games for today, including Philadelphia vs Pittsburgh, Cleveland vs Detroit, etc.

HAWTHORNE ENTRIES FOR TOMORROW

First race, selling, for 3-year-olds and up, mile—Delora, 107; Louis Green, 107; Darnley, 106; Sun Maid, 105; Barton, 107; Col. Matt, 107; Burcham, 107; Jim Wasky, 107; Santo, 110; Royal, 112; Cleder, 112; Spangler, 112; Fleuron II, 113; Magic Lantern, 115; Barvin, 115.

Second race, selling, for 3-year-olds and up, 4 furlongs—Cardome, 100; Biddy, 100; Solid Rock, 102; Wild Bear, 105; Lady Powers, 106; Lucille B., 109; E. F. Albee, 107; St. Leo, 108; Waterproof, 108; May Peep, 108; King Kist, 110; Captain Bravo, 110.

Third race, selling, 2-year-olds, 4 1/2 furlongs—Tuck, 95; Duckhand, 95; May B., 108; Fight Pair, 109; Ginger, 109; May Roy, 103; Vagabond, 103; Millner, 106; Juvenile, 105; Burbank, 112; Locke, 112; many interesting and thrilling features. In this city there should not be the least difficulty in getting together a strong team, as the committee will have the opportunity of selecting its players from the Bryn Mawr, Philadelphia Country Club and Devon teams.

Fourth race, selling, for 3-year-olds and up, 6 furlongs—Shine, 100; Jerry, 102; Liberator, 102; Royal Tea, 110; Bora, 110; Lanterne, 110; Rio Braun, 112.

Fifth race, selling, for 3-year-olds and up, 6 furlongs—Weich, 104; Sevens, 105; Fox Penn, 105; Manassah, 108; Brookfield, 110; Morristown, 110.

Sixth race, selling, for 3-year-olds and up, 1 1/8 miles—Broomcorn, 94; Thanksgiving, 98; George Kosch, 102; Marjorie D., 108; Louise Paul, 107; Husky Lad, 109; Just Red, 109; Indiana, 109.

Apprentice allowances claimed. Weather, clear; track, fast.

JAPS IN LONGWOOD TENNIS

BOSTON, July 24.—Many leading tennis players will appear today on the courts of the Longwood Cricket Club for the opening of the 26th annual tournament, the oldest in the country under club auspices.

The competition will afford tennis followers an opportunity to compare the work of the two Japanese players, K. Kumagai and H. Chikama, with that of the ranking American stars who are expected to approach top form this time.

There will be no challenge round, as Maurice E. McLaghlin, the former national and Davis Cup champion, who won permanent possession of the Longwood Cup last year, will not defend his title.

A new trophy will be placed in competition and will go to the player who wins it three times.

LOCAL OARSMEN IN TRAINING FOR DULUTH REGATTA

Vesper and Undine Clubs Hold Trials for Their Respective Eights

KELLY IN GOOD SHAPE

Oarsmen of the Vesper and Undine Clubs are training for the national championships, which will be held at Duluth August 11 and 12. This week several of the clubmen must cover the mile and a quarter course in a certain time or they will not be permitted to make the trip West.

Jack Kelly and Walter Smith, the crack Vesper oarsmen, need not worry, for they are always in form and need not be tested. Kelly will defend Philadelphia's prestige in the championship senior singles, while he will row in the senior doubles with Smith.

It is the respective eights of the Undine and Vesper Clubs that are causing the coaches worry. The Vesper are planning to send a senior eight, while the Undine are counting on sending their intermediate eight. The members of both these squads are "pluggers," the sort of athletes that work hard to win, but they must row the course in the time set by their respective coaches or their names will be among the missing in the entry list for the championships.

Today Coach "Wash" Engle will give the Vesper eight its final trial, and, cold-blooded as it may seem, the crew will be disbanded unless it comes through with a punch that is satisfactory to his instructor.

The Vesper eight consists of Bowman, bow; Boyd, 2; Graef, 3; Creary, 4; P. Kelly, 5; Lally, 6; Mueller, 7; Severn, stroke; McEwan, coxswain.

Coach F. Buntz yesterday, while watching his Undine eight pulling strongly and evenly down the course, said, "This squad is certainly going great guns, and it has twice made the required time. On each occasion, however, conditions have been favorable to the crew. It will be necessary for the oarsmen to perform the feat under ordinary conditions before they are eligible to go to Duluth." Buntz said that he would give his eight until July 29 before making the final test.

The Undine eight suffered a reverse this week when two of its members became ill. They were Wilson and Vaughn Chambers, brothers, who row at No. 4 and stroke, respectively. Vaughn is again seated in the shell, but Wilson's place has been taken by Matthew Lukens, who had been training in row in intermediate singles.

George Allison, in the quarter mile dash, and Shmidheiser, in the association singles, bring the possible Undine entry list up to three.

Yesterday's Results

NATIONAL LEAGUE. Philadelphia at Pittsburgh—threatening. (Only game scheduled).

AMERICAN LEAGUE. Chicago at Detroit—clear. (Only game scheduled).

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE. Richmond at Newark—cloudy. Baltimore at Providence—clear. Montreal at Toronto—fog. Buffalo at Rochester—fog. (Game postponed to later date).

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

NATIONAL LEAGUE. Philadelphia, 3; Cincinnati, 1. Boston, 2; St. Louis, 1. Chicago, 8; New York, 4. Other clubs not scheduled.

AMERICAN LEAGUE. St. Louis, 5; Cleveland, 2 (10 innings). Chicago, 2; Detroit, 5. Other clubs not scheduled.

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE. Newark, 3; Richmond, 3 (first game). Newark, 3; Richmond, 2 (second game). Providence at Baltimore—postponed, rain; two games tomorrow. Other clubs not scheduled.

American Association. Kansas City, 1; Louisville, 0. Second game—Kansas City, 9; Louisville, 0. Cincinnati, 2; Columbus, 1. Cincinnati, 2; Columbus, 1. Indianapolis, 9; Milwaukee, 3. Second game—Indianapolis, 7; Milwaukee, 3.

New York State League. Binghamton, 6; Scranton, 2. Elmira, 2; Wilkes-Barre, 3. Second game—Elmira, 3; Wilkes-Barre, 2. Utica, 5; Albany, 4.

RED SOX MOVING AT MORE SPEEDY CLIP THAN ANY OTHER CLUB IN AMERICAN LEAGUE

STATISTICS OF INTERSECTIONAL CLASH AS BIG LEAGUES SHIFT THE SCENES

Table showing statistics of inter-sectional clashes between teams from different leagues, listing wins and losses.

Deal of trouble and the light hitting against Detroit's portside hurlers is likely to result in every team using left-handers whenever possible against Boston for the remainder of the season.

Washington and Detroit also enjoyed great success in the inter-sectional clash, each team gaining on the Yankees and Indians. The latter team got only an even break and fell back to third place while New York retained its lead, though it just beat an even break, winning 10 out of 19 games. As for the Athletics, the least said about them the better. They won 2 and lost 14.

In the National League the superiority of the east over the west was again brought out clearly. Despite the great disadvantage of playing in the west, where the heat has been excessive, the eastern teams won 27 games and lost 28. Not a single western team got an even break, which means that the west is completely eliminated from the pennant race. Chicago has a slight chance, but it must strike a winning stride like the one the Giants had earlier in the season to get in the race.

The excellent comeback of the Dodgers on Saturday enabled the league leaders to regain some of the ground lost in the early part of the trip, and as a result there is still a slight change in the position of the leaders.

Braves' Trip

The Braves had the best trip, unless the Phillies wind up their stand in Pittsburgh with a victory today. Stallings' team won 10 and lost 6 games, while the Phillies, exclusive of today's contest with the Pirates, captured 9 out of 15 games. Brooklyn's double victory over the Pirates Saturday enabled Robinson's team to get better than an even break. They won 9 out of 14.

The Giants were the only Eastern team which failed to get better than an even break, and they just broke even in 18 games played. St. Louis made the best record of the Western teams, Huggins' team winning 8 out of 17 games. The Cardinals broke even with Brooklyn, took three out of four from the Giants, lost three out of five to the Braves and three out of four to the Phillies. Pittsburgh won six games and lost seven and showed marked improvement. The majority of the Pirates' defeats were close-score or extra-inning games, and Callahan's team really looks stronger at the present time than any other in the West, grand pitching giving the Pirates the edge.

Diggins and Wagner Box at Weight

At (K. O.) Wagner and Young Diggins, principals in the wind-up at the Broadway Club tonight, are to weigh in at 115 pounds at 6 o'clock. Other bouts scheduled follow: Sammy Crinkle vs. Marjorie McKeen; Wally Nelson vs. Charley Matthews; Joe Bird vs. Joe Lopez; Bobby Walker vs. Young Coster.

Advertisement for Zira Cigarettes featuring a large graphic of a pack and the text: 'THE SUCCESS OF ZIRA IS AMONG THINKING PEOPLE. People who know that the tobacco in the cigarette, and how those tobaccos are put in—are what count. BETTER TOBACCO MADE THEM FAMOUS. The thinking public smoke Zira because they find in Zira the "better tobacco that made them famous." We invite every man who thinks to invest a nickel in Zira and see how "wonderfully great" they are. WONDERFULLY GREAT CIGARETTES. 5 CENTS. The Mildest Cigarette. ESTD 1760.'